# **EXHIBIT**

4

```
Page 1
                IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
(1)
                 FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
                          AUSTIN DIVISION
(2)
(3) ABIGAIL NOEL FISHER; and
   RACHEL MULTER MICHALEWICZ
        Plaintiffs,
(5)
                                         Civil Action No.
                                         1:08-cy-00263-SS
(6)
(7) STATE OF TEXAS; UNIVERSITY OF )
   TEXAS AT AUSTIN; et al,
        Defendants.
(9)
(10)
                         ORAL DEPOSITION OF
(12)
                            BRIAN BREMEN
                          October 6, 2008
(13)
(14)
(15)
        ORAL DEPOSITION of BRIAN BREMEN, produced as a witness
(16)
(17) at the instance of the Plaintiffs and duly sworn, was taken
(18) in the above-styled and numbered cause on October 6, 2008,
(19) from 10:03 a.m. to 11:58 a.m., before Tracie L. Chew,
(20) Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Texas,
(21) reported by machine shorthand at the offices of University
(22) of Texas at Austin, Main Building, Suite 210, Austin, Texas,
(23) pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the
(24) provisions stated on the record or attached hereto.
(25)
```

	Page 2		Page 4
(1)	APPEARANCES	(1)	THE REPORTER: On the record, 10:03.
(2)	FOR THE PLAINTIFFS:	(2)	BRIAN BREMEN,
(3)	Mr. Thomas R. McCarthy	(3)	having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:
140	WILEY REIN, L.L.P.		EXAMINATION
(4)	1776 K Stree, N.W. Washington, DC 20006	(4)	
(5)	202/719-7000	(5)	BY MR. McCARTHY;
(6)	202,727,700	(6)	Q. Good morning.
(7)	FOR THE DEFENDANTS:	(7)	A. Morning.
(8)	Ms. Mishell B. Kneeland	(8)	Q. My name is Thomas McCarthy and I represent the
(0)	OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL	(9)	plaintiffs in this case. And, Dr. Bremen Is it doctor?
(9)	Assistant Attorney General 300 West Fifteenth Street	(10)	A. Sure.
(10)	Austin, Texas 78701	(11)	Q. Dr. Bremen, are you here in response to this
(/	512/463-2004	(12)	notice of deposition?
(11)		(13)	A. Yes, I am.
(12)		(14)	Q. Okay.
/12\	ALSO PRESENT:	, , ,	MS. KNEELAND: And at this point for the
(13)	Mr. Leo Barnes	(15)	
(14)	Ms. Patricia C. "Patti" Ohlendorf	(16)	record, I'll state that the topic for which Dr. Bremen has
(15)		(17)	been designated is the broad topic of No. 11, the training
(16)		(18)	process for admissions officials and undergraduate
(17)		(19)	application readers at the University of Texas at Austin.
(18)		(20)	MR. McCARTHY: Okay.
(19)		(21)	Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) And, Dr. Bremen, I'll try to
(21)		(22)	stick to that topic. If I start to ask you questions that
(22)		(23)	are outside of that that you're not prepared for, you can go
(23)		(24)	ahead and tell me that you're not prepared to talk about
(24)		(25)	that today.
(25)	D 2	(/	
	Page 3		Page 5
(1)	INDEX	(1)	A. Sure thing.
(2)	PAGE	(2)	Q. Now, have you ever been deposed before?
(3)	Appearances	(3)	A. No, I haven't.
(5)	Examination by Mr. McCarthy 4	(4)	Q. Okay,
(6)	Changes and Signature	(5)	A. No, this is the first time.
(7)	Reporter's Certification 64	(6)	Q. Well, I'll tell you a little bit about it.
(8)	•	(7)	Basically, I'm going to ask you a series of questions that
(9)	EXHIBITS	(8)	relate to your role and your responsibilities that are
(10)	NO. DESCRIPTION PAGE	(9)	relevant to this case and you'll be testifying on behalf of
(11)	2	1	the University. Just answer the questions to the best of
(10)	Office of Admissions - Freshman Application Review	(10)	7 - 1
(12)	Sheet 3 37	(11)	your ability. If you don't know the answer, feel free to
(13)	Freshman Application Review Sheet	(12)	say you don't know. If my question is unclear, feel free to
(14)	Transmitter The Stransfort Transmitter Company	(13)	ask me to repeat it. And if you have a question that you
`` <i>'</i>	4 51	(14)	would like to ask Ms. Kneeland, your attorney here, feel
(15)	Essays, Instructions, and Scoring Guide	(15)	free to ask her. I just ask that you answer my question
(16)	5 54	(16)	first and then go ahead and ask her.
	Sample Essay A	(17)	A. Sure.
(17)	£	(18)	Q. If you need to take a break for whatever reason,
(10)	6 56	(19)	use the men's room, get a drink of water, we can certainly
(18)	Sample Essay A	(20)	take some breaks. And I also ask that when I ask a
(20)	* * * *	(21)	question, if your answer is a yes or a no, please state it
(21)			
(22)		(22)	verbally rather than nod your head so that the court
(23)		(23)	reporter can put it into the record.
(24) (25)		(24)	A. Sure.
		(25)	<ul> <li>Q. Okay. Do you have any questions about the</li> </ul>

2 (Pages 2 to 5)

Page 8 Page 6 procedure? (1) O. Okay. (1) (2)A. -- 13 to 15. A. No. (2)Q. Okay. Have you held any other positions while Q. Okay, great. I'm going to ask you just a few more (3)(3) you've been at UT Austin? sort of standard logistical questions before we actually get (4)(4) started into the meat of this. (5)A. Just the associate professorship. (5)MS. KNEELAND: Just -- You mean positions at (6)Have you taken any medications or ingested (6) UT Austin or do you mean other positions outside of the anything that might affect your ability to testify here (7) (7) University? today? (8) (8)MR. McCARTHY: I mean other positions at UT (9) (9)A. No. O. Okay. Did you meet with anyone to prepare for (10)Austin. (10)this deposition? (11)MS. KNEELAND: Then I think you answered. (11)THE WITNESS: Right. (12)(12)A. Yes. (13)MR. McCARTHY: Okay. Q. Okay. Did you meet with Ms. Kneeland? (13)(14) Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) Have you held other positions (14)A. Yes. outside of UT Austin that relate to these duties? (15)O. Did you meet with anyone else? (15)(16)A. Yeah. I've been a consultant for the A. Leo Barnes. (16)(17) College Board for about 30 years now. I was the chair of Q. Okay. About how many times did you meet with (17)the Test Development Committee for the SAT II writing test, (18)(18) them? I was a chief reader for the SAT II writing test, and was a (19)A. I met with Ms. Kneeland and Leo once and then once (19)(20)member of the SAT Writing Test Development Committee when (20)before with Leo and Patti Ohlendorf. I forgot her last (21)the SAT II writing test was suspended and that test then (21)name. (22)became part of the overall SAT battery. I was then a Q. Okay. (22)special consultant for the College Board once the SAT MS. KNEELAND: And just so you know, she's (23)(23)writing test was administered where I would fly up to legal counsel for the University of Texas at Austin as (24)(24)(25)(25)Iowa City every time there was an administration of the SAT Page 7 Page 9 to sat up the scoring and training procedures for that test. (1)MR. McCARTHY: Thank you. MS. KNEELAND: -- to clear that up before you (2)Q. Okay. And what's your educational background? (2)A. My educational background, I was a AB in economics (3) ask. (3) from Princeton University, taught high school for eight Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) Did you review any documents in (4)(4) years and while I was doing that went back and worked on a preparation for this deposition? (5) (5) master's degree in English, and then went back to Princeton A. Well, the only reason I'm - I had given documents (6) (6)to Leo and I don't believe, though, that we actually (7) to finish a Ph.D. in English literature. (7)O. Are you able to testify on behalf of the reviewed them. We talked about them, but didn't look at (8)(8)University of Texas at Austin for the purposes of the topics (9) (9)them. that Ms. Kneeland mentioned earlier? (10)Q. Okay. (10)A. As far as the essays and the training goes, MS. KNEELAND: I think he's stating the (11)(11)difference between he gave documents for us to produce to (12)absolutely. (12)Q. Okay. Can you tell me about the training that's (13)you versus having gone over them. (13)given to the readers that review applications? (14)MR, McCARTHY: That's what I figured. (14)A. Sure. This is the same process that we used at Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) Okay. What is your job title? (15)(15)the College Board for grading - for evaluating essays. A. I'm an associate professor in the Department of (16)(16)It's a process known as holistic scoring. It was actually English. (17)(17)Q. Okay. And what are your responsibilities with developed in the '60s by a woman named Trudy Conlan at (18)(18)(19)Educational Testing Services and it's - also I should say I regard to the admissions program? (19)developed a workshop for the College Board for in, again, A. The admissions program hired me awhile ago now as (20)(20)essay scoring and evaluating essays as a piece of writing. (21)(21)a cross-campus consultant to help them with the essay Would you like me to explain the process (22)process in admissions. (22)Q. Okay. And how long have you been in that position (23)itself? (23)with the admissions office? O. Sure, please continue. (24)(24)A. All right. The major principle, I guess, of A. I want to say about 15 years -(25)(25)

İ	Page 10		Page 12
(1)	holistic scoring is that you try to establish a set criteria	(1)	THE WITNESS: Okay, sure.
(2)	for an essay as an overall piece of writing. Would you use	(2)	Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) Okay. When you were first
(3)	a — Using a six-point scale, you evaluate a population of	(3)	talking about how the holistic review is done and you
(4)	essays according to, you know, again, those that are good,	(4)	mentioned the scoring guide, you also talked about setting
(5)	as good, better than the majority, those that are not as	(5)	criteria. And was that the scoring guide?
(6)	successful, less successful, you know, than the majority of	(6)	A. I
(7)	the essays. It's a – a process that involves evaluating a	Ö	Q. You used the word setting criteria, I believe.
(8)	population of essays beforehand in order to pick sample	(8)	Maybe I misheard you.
(9)	essays for particular score points so that the training	(9)	A. Well in other words, the the scoring guide
(10)	can will involve, then, triangulating between a set of	(10)	establishes the criteria — the general criteria, general
(11)	principles in holistic scoring, a scoring guide, and these	(11)	descriptions for each score point.
(12)	sets of samples.	(12)	Q. Okay.
(13)	Q. Okay. Now, you talked about In your answer	(13)	A. Those descriptions, though, are made specific in
(14)	there you talked about setting up a scoring guide?	(14)	relation to the sample essays, then, the readers are trained
(15)	A. Yes, the scoring guide.	(15)	on
(16)	Q. What do you mean by that?	(16)	Q. Okay.
(17)	A. The scoring guide is a set of really varying	(17)	A. — if that helps.
(18)	descriptions for each score point so that — I tell readers	(18)	Q. Okay, yeah. And we'll get back to that in a
(19)	that they want to sort of evaluate each essay in three	(19)	little bit.
(20)	dimensions so that you're looking at complexity of thought,	(20)	Let me ask you this. How often is training
(21)	substantiality of development, and facility with language	(21)	given to the application readers?
(22)	and so — I believe there's a copy of the scoring guide that	(22)	A. There's two - two times when - when the readers
(23)	we use in the material that I gave to Leo and Mishell, but	(23)	are trained. The senior staff Each group is trained
(24)	that each score point then has a description along with it	(24)	once. The senior staff is trained once and then the group
(25)	that's really made specific, though, in relation to the	(25)	of junior staff readers are trained a second time.
<u> </u>			
	Page 11		Page 13
41	Page 11	( <del>1</del> )	Page 13
(1)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.	(1)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior
(2)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about	(2)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?
(2) (3)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues	(2) (3)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff.
(2) (3) (4)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.	(2) (3) (4)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain
(2) (3) (4) (5)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the	(2) (3) (4) (5)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line.
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?  A. That's correct.	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line. Q. Okay. I'm not sure if it's Dr. or Mr. Lavergne,
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. So those Are those sort of the major	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line. Q. Okay. I'm not sure if it's Dr. or Mr. Lavergne, but he was testifying earlier a little bit about interrater
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. So those Are those sort of the major components that you look at when you review an essay?	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line. Q. Okay. I'm not sure if it's Dr. or Mr. Lavergne, but he was testifying earlier a little bit about interrater reliability studies.
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. So those Are those sort of the major components that you look at when you review an essay?  A. Well you want to negotiate among those three axes	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line. Q. Okay. I'm not sure if it's Dr. or Mr. Lavergne, but he was testifying earlier a little bit about interrater reliability studies.  A. Yeah.
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. So those Are those sort of the major components that you look at when you review an essay?  A. Well you want to negotiate among those three axes really, those three components.	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line. Q. Okay. I'm not sure if it's Dr. or Mr. Lavergne, but he was testifying earlier a little bit about interrater reliability studies.  A. Yeah. Q. Is that what you're talking about?
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. So those Are those sort of the major components that you look at when you review an essay?  A. Well you want to negotiate among those three axes really, those three components.  Q. Okay. So in other words, an essay that shows the	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line. Q. Okay. I'm not sure if it's Dr. or Mr. Lavergne, but he was testifying earlier a little bit about interrater reliability studies.  A. Yeah. Q. Is that what you're talking about? A. There's that, there's also the fact that files and
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. So those Are those sort of the major components that you look at when you review an essay?  A. Well you want to negotiate among those three axes really, those three components.  Q. Okay. So in other words, an essay that shows the complexity and the facility and the substantiality is one	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line. Q. Okay. I'm not sure if it's Dr. or Mr. Lavergne, but he was testifying earlier a little bit about interrater reliability studies.  A. Yeah. Q. Is that what you're talking about? A. There's that, there's also the fact that files and essays will — you know, can be reviewed, say, by the senior
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. So those Are those sort of the major components that you look at when you review an essay?  A. Well you want to negotiate among those three axes really, those three components.  Q. Okay. So in other words, an essay that shows the complexity and the facility and the substantiality is one that will get a higher score.	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line. Q. Okay. I'm not sure if it's Dr. or Mr. Lavergne, but he was testifying earlier a little bit about interrater reliability studies.  A. Yeah. Q. Is that what you're talking about? A. There's that, there's also the fact that files and essays will — you know, can be reviewed, say, by the senior staff or by another person looking at that file and then
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. So those Are those sort of the major components that you look at when you review an essay?  A. Well you want to negotiate among those three axes really, those three components.  Q. Okay. So in other words, an essay that shows the complexity and the facility and the substantiality is one that will get a higher score.  A. In varying degrees, sure.	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line. Q. Okay. I'm not sure if it's Dr. or Mr. Lavergne, but he was testifying earlier a little bit about interrater reliability studies.  A. Yeah. Q. Is that what you're talking about? A. There's that, there's also the fact that files and essays will — you know, can be reviewed, say, by the senior staff or by another person looking at that file and then checking to make sure that the essay scores and the PAI
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. So those Are those sort of the major components that you look at when you review an essay?  A. Well you want to negotiate among those three axes really, those three components.  Q. Okay. So in other words, an essay that shows the complexity and the facility and the substantiality is one that will get a higher score.  A. In varying degrees, sure.  Q. Okay.	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line. Q. Okay. I'm not sure if it's Dr. or Mr. Lavergne, but he was testifying earlier a little bit about interrater reliability studies.  A. Yeah. Q. Is that what you're talking about? A. There's that, there's also the fact that files and essays will — you know, can be reviewed, say, by the senior staff or by another person looking at that file and then checking to make sure that the essay scores and the PAI scores seem in line —
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. So those Are those sort of the major components that you look at when you review an essay?  A. Well you want to negotiate among those three axes really, those three components.  Q. Okay. So in other words, an essay that shows the complexity and the facility and the substantiality is one that will get a higher score.  A. In varying degrees, sure.  Q. Okay.  A. Absolutely, yeah. I was going to say it might be	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line. Q. Okay. I'm not sure if it's Dr. or Mr. Lavergne, but he was testifying earlier a little bit about interrater reliability studies.  A. Yeah. Q. Is that what you're talking about? A. There's that, there's also the fact that files and essays will — you know, can be reviewed, say, by the senior staff or by another person looking at that file and then checking to make sure that the essay scores and the PAI scores seem in line — Q. Okay.
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. So those Are those sort of the major components that you look at when you review an essay?  A. Well you want to negotiate among those three axes really, those three components.  Q. Okay. So in other words, an essay that shows the complexity and the facility and the substantiality is one that will get a higher score.  A. In varying degrees, sure.  Q. Okay.  A. Absolutely, yeah. I was going to say it might be helpful for me to actually look at the scoring guide if	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line. Q. Okay. I'm not sure if it's Dr. or Mr. Lavergne, but he was testifying earlier a little bit about interrater reliability studies.  A. Yeah. Q. Is that what you're talking about? A. There's that, there's also the fact that files and essays will — you know, can be reviewed, say, by the senior staff or by another person looking at that file and then checking to make sure that the essay scores and the PAI scores seem in line — Q. Okay. A. — with what they would give.
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. So those Are those sort of the major components that you look at when you review an essay?  A. Well you want to negotiate among those three axes really, those three components.  Q. Okay. So in other words, an essay that shows the complexity and the facility and the substantiality is one that will get a higher score.  A. In varying degrees, sure.  Q. Okay.  A. Absolutely, yeah. I was going to say it might be helpful for me to actually look at the scoring guide if we're going to talk about it.	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line. Q. Okay. I'm not sure if it's Dr. or Mr. Lavergne, but he was testifying earlier a little bit about interrater reliability studies.  A. Yeah. Q. Is that what you're talking about? A. There's that, there's also the fact that files and essays will — you know, can be reviewed, say, by the senior staff or by another person looking at that file and then checking to make sure that the essay scores and the PAI scores seem in line — Q. Okay. A. — with what they would give. Q. Okay. So in addition to this interrater
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21) (22)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. So those Are those sort of the major components that you look at when you review an essay?  A. Well you want to negotiate among those three axes really, those three components.  Q. Okay. So in other words, an essay that shows the complexity and the facility and the substantiality is one that will get a higher score.  A. In varying degrees, sure.  Q. Okay.  A. Absolutely, yeah. I was going to say it might be helpful for me to actually look at the scoring guide if we're going to talk about it.  MS. KNEELAND: It's Mr. McCarthy's	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21) (22)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line. Q. Okay. I'm not sure if it's Dr. or Mr. Lavergne, but he was testifying earlier a little bit about interrater reliability studies.  A. Yeah. Q. Is that what you're talking about? A. There's that, there's also the fact that files and essays will — you know, can be reviewed, say, by the senior staff or by another person looking at that file and then checking to make sure that the essay scores and the PAI scores seem in line — Q. Okay. A. — with what they would give. Q. Okay. So in addition to this interrater reliability study —
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21) (22) (23)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. So those Are those sort of the major components that you look at when you review an essay?  A. Well you want to negotiate among those three axes really, those three components.  Q. Okay. So in other words, an essay that shows the complexity and the facility and the substantiality is one that will get a higher score.  A. In varying degrees, sure.  Q. Okay.  A. Absolutely, yeah. I was going to say it might be helpful for me to actually look at the scoring guide if we're going to talk about it.  MS. KNEELAND: It's Mr. McCarthy's deposition. I don't know if he has it with him, so	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21) (22) (23)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line. Q. Okay. I'm not sure if it's Dr. or Mr. Lavergne, but he was testifying earlier a little bit about interrater reliability studies.  A. Yeah. Q. Is that what you're talking about? A. There's that, there's also the fact that files and essays will — you know, can be reviewed, say, by the senior staff or by another person looking at that file and then checking to make sure that the essay scores and the PAI scores seem in line — Q. Okay. A. — with what they would give. Q. Okay. So in addition to this interrater reliability study — A. Right.
(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21) (22)	sample essays that readers then are trained on.  Q. Okay. So now this scoring guide, you talked about complexity of the issues  A. Complexity of thought.  Q. Sorry, complexity of thought and the substantiality of the  A. Of development.  Q development, and the facility with language?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. So those Are those sort of the major components that you look at when you review an essay?  A. Well you want to negotiate among those three axes really, those three components.  Q. Okay. So in other words, an essay that shows the complexity and the facility and the substantiality is one that will get a higher score.  A. In varying degrees, sure.  Q. Okay.  A. Absolutely, yeah. I was going to say it might be helpful for me to actually look at the scoring guide if we're going to talk about it.  MS. KNEELAND: It's Mr. McCarthy's	(2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21) (22)	Q. Okay. And senior staff, would these be the senior readers?  A. They're senior members of the admissions staff. Q. Okay. And is this training repeated after certain periods of time?  A. No. There — there are validity studies done and checks throughout the reading process to make sure that readers are staying on point in line. Q. Okay. I'm not sure if it's Dr. or Mr. Lavergne, but he was testifying earlier a little bit about interrater reliability studies.  A. Yeah. Q. Is that what you're talking about? A. There's that, there's also the fact that files and essays will — you know, can be reviewed, say, by the senior staff or by another person looking at that file and then checking to make sure that the essay scores and the PAI scores seem in line — Q. Okay. A. — with what they would give. Q. Okay. So in addition to this interrater reliability study —

Page 16 Page 14 (1) A. Yes. (1) O. -- which is a part of the personal achievement O. And from time to time when quality control (2)index. (2)analysis is done, is it the case that some readers have been (3)A. Index, that's correct. (3) giving sort of variant PAI scores or essay scores? Q. Okay. And you said that the reader reviews first (4)(5) A. You know, I -- I have to admit I don't know, I'm (5) the essays? (6)not really part of that process. (6)A. That's -- that's the way they've been trained. MS. KNEELAND: Can we just go off the record (7)(7) First they score the essays holistically, then they look at the entire file holistically for specific information, (8) a second? (8)(Discussion off the record) (9)again, how it will show this particular applicant's personal (9) (10)Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) Okay. When -- when a reader is (10)achievement. reviewing an application to determine a personal achievement (11)Q. Okay. And when they review the whole file to (11)score -- well, can you -- can you talk about that? Can you (12)determine that personal achievement score, do you mean the (12)talk about how readers determine a personal achievement whole file apart from the essays or the essays --(13)(13)A. The essays are included as a part of that file. (14)score from an applicant's file? (14)(15)A. Sure. I should say up front that it's different (15)Q. Okay. So the essays are read -- Let me back up. than reading the essays holistically. There was a holistic (16)So readers are trained to read and score the (16)essays individually first. (17)evaluation now of the entire file and so the essays (17)(18) themselves are used differently in that process in which (18)A. And to evaluate them as a piece of writing. So in readers are told to read the essays first and score them (19)other words, it's the quality of the essay as a piece of (20)holistically. Then with the PAI determination, there's this (20)writing. That's the holistic essay score. negotiation between a breadth of involvement with a depth of (21)Q. Okay. So first -- So the readers are trained to (21)review and score in a holistic manner the essays involvement. There are a number of criteria, then, that (22)(22)we've established to, again, use a six-point scale to (23)individually first. (23)A. That's correct. (24)(24)evaluate a file in terms of whether this is better or as good of the majority or, you know, in the lower half. (25)O. And then after that --Page 15 Page 17 (1) There's that -- that sense of someone who has made a (1)A. Right. (2)Q. -- the readers are trained to review the entire difference, there is, you know, someone who has maximized (2)circumstances is another sort of criteria that's used, and, file, including those essays, and they review the entire (3)(3) file holistically. (4)you know, someone who's gone outside of themselves, really (4) A. Yes. There, though, the essays are used for any gotten involved with the community, with a job, with a (5)(5) specific information they may reveal or verify. (6)family, made a difference again in some way. (6)(7) O. Okay. (7)Q. So, okay, let me ask about that. So in other words, when the essays are reviewed and it's part of the MS. KNEELAND: And I'm not interrupting to be (8)(8)

(9) obstructionist, I'm interrupting just so the record's clear because we have some looseness in our characterization sometimes. When he's talking about the personal achievement (11)(12)index right now, he's talking about the personal achievement score which is one to six that feeds into the PAI (13)(14)calculation that Mr. Lavergne talked about.

MR. McCARTHY: I'll just ask him a question and make sure he can make that clear.

MS, KNEELAND: Okay.

MR, McCARTHY: That's what I thought. (18)

Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) Okay. So when you're talking (19)about reviewing a file and I think you mentioned for breadth (20)

and depth of involvement --(21)

(22)A. Right.

(15)

(16)(17)

Q. -- you were talking about reviewing to determine a (23)(24)personal achievement score --

A. That's right. (25)

holistic review of the entire file --(9)

A. Right.

(10)

Q. -- they are no longer considered for the quality (11)

of the writing?

(12)(13)A. It's more information that they reveal; in other (14)words, there's one time where just as part of an applicant's

resume he had a line item that was Kings and Queens of the (15)(16)Court. It was in his essay that you learn that Kings and

(17)Queens of the Court was a charity basketball game that this

guy had established at Phillips Andover in order to raise (18)

(19)scholarship money for needy students. So that information,

(20)right, in other words, elevated what was just a bold

(21) description in to really valuable information.

(22)Q. Okay. So I guess would it be accurate to say,

(23)then, that when the essays are reviewed as part of the

holistic review of the entire file, they are reviewed for (24)

this breadth and depth of involvement?

5 (Pages 14 to 17)

Page 18

A. Could you repeat that?

- Q. Sure. So when the essays are reviewed as part of
  the holistic review of the entire file, the essays are
  reviewed for this breadth and depth of involvement?
- (5) A. The essays are reviewed in the for the way that
   (6) they contribute to the reader's understanding of the
   (7) student's breadth and depth of involvement —
- (8) Q. Okay.

(1)

(12)

(1)

(9)

(12)

(13)

(14) (15)

(25)

- (9) A. -- yeah.
- (10) Q. Okay. And then there's also an optional third(11) essay that's part of the application.
  - A. Right.
- (13) Q. Where does that come into play in the holistic (14) review?
- (15) A. If it's there, again, it would be for the
  (16) information it reveals about the applicant's involvement as
  (17) a student.
- (18) Q. Okay. And does that go into the personal(19) achievement score?
- (20) A. I believe it would be part of the -- it would be
   (21) part of the personal achievement score, right. I want to
   (22) make sure about the score versus the index.
- (23) Q. So it's part of the personal achievement score as(24) distinguished from the personal achievement index. Well,
- (25) actually, I should restate that. It's a part -- So the

- Page 19 third essay is part of the personal achievement score which
- (2) is a component of the personal achievement index.
  (3) A. Right. It would be read along with the other
- (4) information in that file, yes.
  (5) Q. Okay. In this third essay, if the third essay
- Q. Okay. In this third essay, if the third essay
  contributes nothing to the breadth and depth of the
  applicant's involvement, does it just have no effect on the
  personal achievement score?
  - A. I would imagine.
- (10) Q. Would it be possible for the third essay to have a
   (11) negative effect on the personal achievement score?
  - A. You know, throughout the holistic process you're always told or readers are always told to reward students for what they do well, so you really don't discuss things in terms of negative effects, taking away.
- (16) Q. Okay. So then would you say that the third essay
   (17) would not have a negative effect on a --
- (18) A. Well, you hope -- We're getting double negatives
   (19) here. I would say the third essay, along with other -- any
   (20) other information in that file, you know, determines what
   (21) you reward that student for having achieved.
- (22) Q. Okay. And that makes sense to me and I'm just
- (23) trying to understand exactly what that means.
- (24) A. Sure
  - Q. So is it the case, then, that the third essay

- (1) would either have a positive effect or no effect on the
- (2) personal achievement score?
- (3) A. Well, the only -- the only reason I'm hesitant to
- (4) answer is that in holistic evaluation, you really don't want

Page 20

- (5) to isolate any one item. The metaphor that I've used to
- (6) train people since I came to Texas is it's like judging
- (7) chili. You know, either a chili's damn good, you know, or
- (8) that chili stinks. It's -- You know, it's afterwards that
- (9) the individual ingredients, you know, come in to play, you
- (10) know, where the beans could have been cooked better or, you
- (11) know, the cayenne pepper wasn't very hot. So, you know,
- (12) it's not that something doesn't count more than something
- (13) less, it's not that something doesn't count at all, it's
- (14) that all of the ingredients are evaluated as a whole.
- (15) Q. Okay. So I guess is it impossible to say whether(16) the third essay might have a negative effect on the personal(17) achievement score?
- (18) A. The only thing you can say is that the third essay
   (19) is one of a set of criteria that a reader would be expected
   (20) to judge and evaluate in that holistic manner.
- (21) Q. Okay. I guess I'm just having a hard time
- (22) understanding and I'm thinking about your example with the
- (23) chili --

(3)

(4)

(14)

(18)

(21)

- (24) A. Sure.
- (25) Q. -- and to me, like, chili could be pretty good,

Page 21

- (1) but the beans be not very good and that would detract from(2) the overall, you know, rating of the chili.
  - A. Absolutely.
  - Q. Okay. So it seems to me that this third essay
- (5) was -- something about it was poor -- if it was poorly done,
- (6) that is, and, you know, it seems possible that it could have
- (7) a negative effect on personal achievement score or that it
- (8) might just not have any negative effect at all, just as a
- (9) positive or a nothing thing, but not a negative thing.
- (10) A. I guess I'm not sure what you mean by "poorly(11) done."
- (12) Q. I don't know what I mean either. I'm trying to(13) figure out what the holistic review is.
  - A. Yeah.
- (15) Q. And I'm sorry I'm having difficulty understanding.
  (16) We'll move along and I'll ask some more questions and we'll
  (17) see if I can understand the holistic review process.
  - A. Sure thing.
- (19) Q. Let me ask, when did the University begin(20) including this optional third essay?
  - A. You know, I honestly don't know.
- (22) Q. Okay. How are the various personal achievement
- (23) factors weighed or -- I mean, not to use the word weighed, I
- (24) know that's -- How are the personal achievement factors
- (24) Know mars -- now are the personal achievement factors
- (25) considered when computing the personal achievement score?

6 (Pages 18 to 21)

Page 24 Page 22 (1) MS. KNEELAND: Object to the form. (1) mean -- you know, I have to say the danger of answering You can answer it if you can. (2) questions about sort of hypothetical files is the same (2)danger, I guess, of answering about hypothetical essays. (3)A. Yeah, again, in other words, if you're asking how (3) And so I've always made it a practice of never to answer (4)individual factors within the file add up to the personal (4) (5) achievement score -(5)questions about hypothetical essays because, you know, what (6)Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) Uh-huh (6)I found is what's in my mind when I answer that is often different than what's in the mind of the person that's A. - you know, again there's that holistic (7) (7) asking me. So I guess I'd have to see the file is what I'm consideration. You can't - And readers are, you know, (8)(8)saying and then I could show you sort of in that file what (9) strictly sort of instructed not to break things down into (9) individual criteria and then add them up. Again, it's a (10)is it that made that person a six or a five or a four or a (10)(11)three, a two, or a one. sort of holistic impression that is made specific with, (11)(12)Q. Okay. (12)again, sets of samples, though these samples are reached by A. It's very hard to answer in the abstract in a unanimous agreement among the senior staff. (13)(13)(14)Q. Okay. (14)hypothetical. (15)A. And one other thing with the samples. There are (15)Q. And I guess part of the reason is that -- I should always ranges with any score point, so you try get some (16)ask you. Is part of the reason for that that there can be a (16)range of personal achievement scores that might be (17)sense of the range within a score point. (17)Q. Could you give me an example of what you might see (18)appropriate for any one given applicant's file? (18)A. I don't think so. Could you repeat that again? (19)in an applicant's file that would result in them getting a (19)(20)high personal achievement score? (20)O. Is part of the reason why it's -- Let me just ask A. Sure. Again, you know, there will be variety - a (21)this and make it easier. (21)For any given applicant's file -variety of types. You know, we've said if there is only one (22)(22)(23)A. Right. (23)activity that that student has - Let's say the only thing Q. -- is there an acceptable range of personal (24)that that student has is that they swim, but they're an (24)(25)Olympic-level swimmer, right, that's that mixture of breadth (25)achievement scores? Page 23 Page 25 (1)with depth. We may have someone else who's been, you know, (1) A. No. I mean, you would - The one thing we ask in both the essays and the personal achievement score is that a recognized leader in a variety of activities, student (2)(2)if there was any kind of variance, it would be at least (3)government along with, you know, teams, along with clubs, (3) contiguous scores. But you hope for exact agreement so that (4)has a job, was promoted to manager and, you know, in that (4)(5) way is seen to be an outstanding candidate. You may have (5) the training is always aiming for everyone to see this file (6)someone who had to work two jobs to help support a family (6)in exactly the same way. and so didn't have the opportunity to get involved with a (7) Q. And when you say contiguous scores, do you mean up (7)or down one from -lot of school activities, but has still been outstanding in (8)(8) (9) those jobs, still involved with the community, still (9) A. Yes. Q. Okay. Up or down one from a mean? (10)distinguished themselves as someone, again, who has made a (10)difference. So there's really a kind of variety of ways in (11)A. No, no, upper one - up or down one from - you (11) (12)which students will distinguish themselves. And, again, (12)know, from other - what other readers would give that (13)it's those -- that idea of maximizing circumstances of (13)score. (14)someone who's made a difference and of kind of mixing this (14)Q. Okay. And now Mr. or Dr. Lavergne -- I'm sorry, I can't remember -- testified earlier about how quality

Q. Okay. Let's use your example of an Olympic (16)control tests are done and he talked about interrater (17) swimmer. reliability analysis.

(18)A. Sure.

(15)

(16)

(17)

(19)

Q. So an Olympic swimmer is, you know, a person who

(20)had nothing really in their file in terms of personal

breadth and depth of experience.

achievement other than that they were an Olympic swimmer. (21)

(22)They have a very high level of depth of involvement, but not

necessarily not breadth. What -- what kind of personal (23)

(24)achievement score might that type of applicant get?

(25)A. If they were, you know, an Olympic swimmer, I (21)A. Yes. Q. Okay. Can you tell me a little bit about that (24)process?

Q. And he said that when these studies are done,

first a true score is assigned to an applicant's file. Is

(25)A. What we - we've used with the essays, they have

7 (Pages 22 to 25)

(15)

(18)

(19)

(20)

(22)

(23)

A. Correct.

that correct?

Page 26

- (1) been essay scores that I've determined and then for the
- (2) files, that those are essay scores, again, that the senior
- (3) staff has unanimously agreed on. So those would determine
- (4) those sort of target scores for both the essays and then for
- (5) the personal achievement score.
  - Q. Okay. So when training is conducted, are the trainees in that class given practice essays to review?
- (8) A. Yeah. The training is actually different for the (9) essays than for the personal achievement scores.
  - Q. Okay, we'll do those one at a time.
- (11) A. Okay.

(6)

(7)

(10)

- (12) Q. Why don't we do -- why don't we talk about
- (13) personal achievement scores.
- (14) A. Okay.
- (15) Q. Tell me how that's done.
- (16) A. The 14 or 15 senior staff members are in a room
- (17) with a pile of about 40 or 50 files in front of them.
- (18) They're each then asked to find two or three files that they
- (19) think are perfect examples of a particular score point. And
- (20) they should be different score points, so one may be a five,
- (21) one may be a three, one may be a one, one may be a six.
- (22) They get those then, you know, two or three files, make a
- (23) sort of packet of them, and put their name on it and have
- (24) recorded their scores. Then those packets are read by four
- (25) other members of the senior staff, so for a total of five
  - ot rive

(25)

Page 28

Page 29

- (1) point, but they're not in order so the readers have to put
- (2) it in order. They then put it back in alphabetical order.
- (3) Right? Each of these samples is marked by an alphabet
- (4) letter, not by the score point. So they put it back in
- (5) alphabetical order and we take scores. All right? So I say
- (6) for Paper K, who gave it a six, who gave it a five, who gave
- (7) it a four, a three, a two, a one? So then after that second
- (8) set of six -- we sort of get one for each score point, so
- (9) now they have two essays for each score point to use as
- (10) samples. We go through a number of sets of three -- and
- (11) these can be any score -- to get them used to that variety
- (12) within the population that they're going to see, as well as
- (12) Within the population that they to going to been as well as
- (13) the variety within a score point and get them to, you know,
- (14) hone in on what the correct score is. And, again,
- (15) through -- You know, there is a little bit of peer pressure
- (16) involved, I mean, through group agreement. I mean, it's
- (17) amazing the group -- you know, I tell groups -- I've trained
- (18) groups across the country in holistic scoring and the most
- (19) accurate group I've ever trained is the admissions staff.
- (20) Amazing agreement.
- (21) Q. Okay. And now if there is disagreement, let's say
- (22) if there is one reader who's training in a class who is
- (23) consistently off the rest of the group for whatever reason,
- (24) does that individual receive extra training?
  - A. You know, we've never really had that. I mean,

Page 27

- evaluations. Then as a group we see what scores were given
- (2) to what files and files that receive a unanimous agreement
- (3) on the score point are then used for those samples. So in
- (4) other words, these are files where five members of the
- (5) senior staff and then everyone else sort of in review
- (6) agrees, yes, that is a perfect three, yes, that's a perfect(7) five.
  - Q. Okay. Could you tell me a little bit about the
- (9) similar process for the personal achievement score?
- (10) A. That was the personal achievement score.
- (11) Q. Oh, I'm sorry, I thought that was the essays.
- (12) A. No, no, the essays --

(8)

(15)

(16)

- (13) Q. I'm sorry. Can tell me a little bit about the
- (14) same process, but for the essays?
  - A. Sure. The essays before the training occurs, I get about a thousand samples of each essay and from those
- (17) thousand I'm the one who picks, then, examples of particular(18) score points and put together packets, then, to train the
- (19) readers on so that the first set that they look at there
- (20) are about five or six set of six essays, then, that they are
- (21) given to look at, so a total of about 36 essays for you
- (22) know, for each essay type.
- (23) The first one they look at is in ascending
- (24) order a one, a two, a three, a four, a five, a six. The
  - 5) second set, then, they look at, there's one for each score

- (1) what happens in training inevitably is there will be one or
- (2) two where somebody will be just off. The real value of
- (3) training I've told readers is that really in training you
- (4) learn your own peccadilloes as a reader and so it's really
- (5) sort of to learn, you know, what do you respond to a little
- (6) too critically, what do you need to back away from, you
- (7) know, what do you need to -- maybe take a cup of coffee
- (8) before you read, you know, a second time. So, you know,
- (9) we've -- you know, I don't know that we've had a case where
- (10) there's somebody who has just been consistently off through
- (11) training.

(12)

- Q. So then is the training designed to sort of work
- (13) out this uniformity?
- (14) A. Absolutely, to gain consensus. I mean, that's
- (15) what One of the principles of the holistic scoring is
- (16) that readers are asked to go with the group agreement and so
- (17) that the main thing is that they learn how the group would
- (18) score a particular essay, that they learn to recognize, you
- (19) know, a variety of successful strategies, styles, ways of
- (20) responding to a particular prompt.
- Q. Okay. Before 2005 the factor of race was not aconsideration in the admissions process. Correct?
  - A. I believe that's correct.
- (24) Q. Well, let's say this. Was the -- was the holistic
- (25) training any different before race became a consideration in

8 (Pages 26 to 29)

(23)

Page 32 Page 30 admissions decisions than it is now? (1) would enter into - Well I guess I would say as an (1) individual criteria, it's never been really anything A. No. I mean, I think it was one of the strengths (2) (2)important. of our training process that, you know, the only way (3)(3)Q. So as an individual criteria, race has some (4) throughout that we've considered, you know, race and consideration to the extent it contributes to the (5) ethnicity in any way is the way a student or an applicant (5)applicant's cultural awareness. will reveal a sense of cultural awareness with regard to (6) (6) that issue. That's really the only way it's entered into (7) A. Well that's why I hesitated to say that it had any (7)individual impact at all because what's more important is (8) the personal achievement. It's never really been a factor (8) the way an applicant reveals some sense of cultural in the essay scoring. That's remained - Both have remained (9) (9) awareness and that has really very little to do -- it has (10)exactly the same. (10)(11)O. Okay. So has the training with regard to the (11)nothing to do with a particular racial or ethnic background. personal achievement score -- Sorry. Has the training with (12)You know, there have been - I remember one sample, in fact, (12)from the personal achievement scores was, you know, an Anglo regard to the personal achievement score changed at all (13)(13)student who lived in a predominantly Hispanic community and since the introduction of race as a factor? (14)(14)(15)how that unusual position of being an Anglo as a minority (15)A. Not in any substantial way that I would say. (16)O. In any substantial way. Any small way? (16)revealed to that particular person, you know, again, aspects (17)of cultural awareness that showed a kind of maturity, a real A. Again, no. I mean, we've -- you know, we've (17)reflectiveness and, again, a sense of how this particular talked kind of throughout the admissions process and, again, (18)(18)individual was able to contribute to that community. (19)given the criteria of, you know, someone who shows, you (19)(20)O. Okay. (20)know, an awareness of their community, you know, a sense A. So, you know, that's the way that, again, that (21) of - altruistic sense of contributing to - you know, to (21)the community, to their schools, to their families. The (22)sense of maturity with regard to cultural awareness has been (22)(23)sort of the major focus. (23)only way I think, you know, again, race and ethnicity has (24)(24)entered into the process in any way is, again, the way it MR. McCARTHY: Can we take a break for a few reveals that sense of cultural awareness I would say. (25)Page 33 Page 31 Q. Okay. Now, admissions officials who read minutes? (1) (1)THE REPORTER: Off the record, 10:43. (2)applicants' files -- Let me back up. (2)(3)Are admissions officials who review (Recess) (3)applicants' files given training at periodic intervals? THE REPORTER: On the record, 10:50. (4)(4) A. I'm only involved with that -- those two -- those (5) O. (By Mr. McCarthy) Dr. Bremen, you've been (5)(6)(6)two meetings, those two trainings. (7)Q. Okay. So but do people repeat the training after (7)and training. In order to help me understand how this (8)works, I want to give you -- can I give you an application a year or two years? (8)(9)and you can look at it --(9)A. Oh, it's very year we repeat the training. (10)A. Sure. Q. Every year. (11)Q. -- and give me an idea of how it might work?

- (10)(11)A. Yes. (12)Q. Okay. So there must have been training prior to the introduction of race as a factor and then again (13)(14)afterwards. (15)A. Absolutely, sure. Q. In these training classes, did any of these (16)
- (17) individual readers ask a question, how do we do this now that race is a factor? (18)A. I think it was less - I mean, there were meetings (19)that we - that I was a part of with the admissions (20)(21) committee outside of the training where those discussions (22) really took place. I think, you know, if - if it did come up at all during the training, again, the answer was exactly (23)(24)the answer that I've given you; in other words, that the only way race is a criteria is the way that it enters - it

discussing scoring of essays and personal achievement scores Okay. This is --(12)(13)MR. McCARTHY: Can I have this marked as an exhibit? (14)(15)(Deposition Exhibit No. 2 marked for (16)identification) Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) Dr. Bremen, do you see what's (17)(18)marked as Deposition Exhibit 2? (19)A. Uh-huh. (20)Q. And can you tell me what that is? A. It's a file from the year 2006 -(21)

Q. And I think it has Bates numbers at the bottom.

Could you tell me what those are, the pages, just so we

(22)

(23)

(24)

(25)

Q. Okay.

A. - of an applicant.

Page 36 Page 34 Q. Okay. And would there be -- in your mind, would (1)(1)can -there be a range of acceptable personal achievement scores (2)(2)A. This number here (indicating)? that this applicant might get? (3)O. Yeah, sure. (3)A. D-175. (4)A. You know, I would say this should be somebody who (4)should get a six. You know, we would, again, in training (5) O. Okay. (5)insist on, you know, that's the score it should get. MS. KNEELAND: Maybe for the record, can you (6) (6)Q. So if you saw on a application like this in go ahead and tell him what the last page is? (7)(7)MR, McCARTHY: Yeah. (8) training and, you know, you thought it was a six but someone (8)THE WITNESS: D-188. (9) else thought it was a five, is that acceptable? (9)(10)A. In training? O. (By Mr. McCarthy) So D-175 to D-188. (10)(11)O. Yeah. (11)A. Yes. Q. And that's Deposition Exhibit 2. (12)A. No. (12)(13)Q. No. What about in practice? (13)A. Yes. (14)A. Again, you have to check with the admissions (14)O. Okay. staff. I would -- I would imagine there would be a kind MS. KNEELAND: Can I just have a quick second (15)(15)a - I would hope there would be a correction. Again, I (16)to look at it? (16)(17)don't know about the day-to-day practice. MR. McCARTHY: Sure, go ahead, take your (17)Q. Okay. And how might that applicant's race weigh (18)time. (18)O. (By Mr. McCarthy) So - and if it helps, take your (19)in to that personal achievement score? (19)time and sort of review it because I know the process is a (20) In my determination it didn't at all. (20)Q. Okay. And are you -- Were you aware of that holistic review --(21)(21)(22)applicant's race when you looked at the file? (22)A. Sure. (23)A. Only that I had read it, I mean, that it says (23)O. -- but why don't you take a few moments to look at that and then, you know, try to explain to me how the (24)ethnicity, Hispanic. (24)O. Okay. Is it the case when readers review (25)(25)scoring works using that as an example. Page 37 Page 35 applicants' files that they know the race? (1) A. Sure (examining document). (1) A. It's part of - it's part of the information that (2) So looking at it again with that criteria in (2)mind of someone who has maximized circumstances, this is (3)they're given. (3)Q. Okay. So they know it when they're reading it. someone from a relatively under-privileged background, a (4)(4) household income less than \$20,000 with a father education (5)A. Yes. (5) level high school graduate or equivalent, mother education (6) O. Okay. (6)MR, McCARTHY: Can we mark this as Deposition level no high school, and yet this applicant has really done (7)(7) (8)Exhibit 3? an exemplary job in terms of achievement and involvement in (8) (Deposition Exhibit No. 3 marked for (9) their schools. Member of the -- or vice president, in fact, (9)of the National Honor Society, president of -- I believe it (10)identification) (10)was Student Council, four-year member, a three-year member (11)Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) This is a document that's Bates (11)labeled D-144, it's marked as Deposition Exhibit 3 and (12)of the National Honor Society, UIL competitor for six years. (12)(13) (13)that's one page of a file and what I want to ask about there So this is someone who has been very involved is that there are a list of extracurricular activities on (14)in a very consistent way over a number of years in high (14)(15)school, someone who has also done work outside of the (15)that page and next to each one of those extracurricular activities there's a note in the margin, there's a numerical school. Dare Program activity, along with a hospital (16)(16)volunteer, Vocation Bible School, worked for a golf (17)value there. (17)tournament. And then in terms of awards, Honor Roll, (18)A. Right. (18)Presidential Award, and then first place in a UIL tournament (19)Q. Do you know what those signify? (19)A. Yeah. It's the number of years they were involved (20)along with first division trumpet assemble medal. So just, (20)again, a kind of quick look, again, given the criteria (21)with that activity. (21)somebody who's maximized circumstances, made a difference, (22)Q. Okay. (22)made a contribution, I mean, it looks like, you know, an A. So it's the same as the "X"s here. (23)(23)outstanding candidate. I would say - It wouldn't surprise Q. Okay. (24)(24)A. They just - This person just put those there, but (25)me a six. (25)

Page 40 Page 38 (1) if you notice organization/position, swimming, varsity (1) component? A. I think you get greater objectivity. captain, four years, so there's a four in the margin; club (2)(3)Q. All right. swimming, three years, three in the margin. (3)O. And so is that tracked to -- I'm sorry, let me (4)A. In other words, with, say, essays, for example, (4)you always tell readers not to focus on, say, individual (5) (5)back up. errors, that they may be so irritated by a comma splice that Is that noted because that relates to that (6) (6) they miss two or three really nice sentences. And so by applicant's depth of involvement? (7) (7)focusing on those individual criteria, you may actually skew (8) MS. KNEELAND: Object to the form. (8)MR. McCARTHY: I'm sorry, what's the (9) your sense of the entire piece that you are looking at, (9) whether that's an essay or whether that's a file. (10)objection? (10)(11)Q. Okay. Now speaking in terms of essays, so -- so MS. KNEELAND: I think it presupposes facts (11)that he hasn't testified to. I just objected to form -when an essay is reviewed holistically, does the grammar, (12)(12)punctuation, et cetera, not make a difference to the score? (13)MR. McCARTHY: Okav. (13)(14)MS, KNEELAND: -- he can answer it. (14)A. It's actually one of the principles of holistic MR. McCARTHY: I just was wondering what (15)scoring. It's not that these things don't count, it's not (15)that any one of them count more than one of the others. (16)form, if it was vague or whatever. (16)(17)It's that you want your overall impression of the essay as (17)Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) Let me try and ask it again. it relates to those samples in relation to the scoring --(18)(18)A. Sure. (19)Q. Earlier you talked about how a personal (19)scoring guide descriptions to determine the score that achievement score is determined considering an individual's (20)some - that an essay gets. (20)Q. Okay. You testified before that race may play a depth and breadth of involvement. Correct? (21)(21)factor in personal achievement scores where it shows some (22)A. As one -- one set of criteria, right, that we use, (22)sense of cultural awareness? (23)(23)sure. (24)O. Sure. So that's one set of criteria, the depth (24)A. Well, I guess I wouldn't put it that way, I because I believe what I said was that the only way that and breadth of involvement --(25)(25)Page 41 Page 39 A. Right. race and ethnicity enter into a consideration of personal (1) achievement score is the way in which a student reveals a O. - is one set of involvement. (2)(2)(3) sense of cultural awareness. (3)A. Right. O. So would -- would the amount of time an individual (4) Q. Okay. (4) has spent on a certain project or activity, does that relate A. So in other words, it doesn't depend on the race (5)(5) and ethnicity of the applicant, it depends on their to the depth of involvement? (6) (6) awareness of race and ethnicity as a cultural issue. A. No, not necessarily. It shows more consistency of (7) (7) involvement over time which would be another - if you look (8)Q. Okay. And that's the only way that race is a (8) at the description, there's also a scoring guide for the (9) factor. (9) personal achievement scores and, again, one through six. (10)A. That's the only way in the training that I've done (10) with the admissions group that we've talked about it. And there in those descriptions it talks about consistency (11)(11)(12)O. Okay. So that race -- I'm sorry, I'm just trying of involvement as opposed to sporadic as opposed to somebody (12)to understand. (13) who's a member as opposed to an officer. So I think that (13)the number of years that they're involved with an activity (14)A. Sure. (14)Q. So race is only a factor to the extent it reveals (15)(15)speaks more to their consistency of involvement. Q. Okay. All right. The personal achievement score some sort of cultural awareness on the part of the (16)(16)(17) is given a numerical value but, again, I believe you (17)applicant. testified that the components that make up that score don't (18)(18)A. Again -Q. I'm sorry if I'm misstating this, I'm just trying get numerical values themselves. (19)(19)(20) to --(20)A. Yes, that you don't want - Since it's reached (21) holistically, you don't want individual criteria to be (21)A. Because race wouldn't be the factor, it's the considered in an individual way. You want them to be (22)exhibition of cultural awareness that's the factor. (22) (23)considered holistically. (23) Q. Okay. So -- so race only impacts a personal Q. Okay. What is the benefit of considering it achievement score to the extent that it reveals something (24)(24)

about the cultural awareness of the applicant?

holistically as opposed to giving numerical value to each

(1)

(10)

(11)

(12)

(13)

(14)

(24)

(1)

(6)

(7)

Page 42

- A. I think you're still using it as a cause; in other words -- and it doesn't have that causal relationship. (2)
- Q. Okay. So -- so I guess what it sounds like you're (3)
- saying, then, is race isn't really a factor at all. (4)
- (5)A. An applicant's race is part of their file and so you would read the entire file and, again, get a sense of, (6) you know, that student's achievement. So that's - I guess, (7)
- that's -- you know, that's as close as I could come to (8)
- saying how race is simply part of an applicant's profile and (9) so since you read the entire file and read all of the, you (10)
- know, various things that are in that file and to then come (11)to some evaluation of that person's personal achievement. (12)
- Q. Okay. So it's certainly the applicant's race is (13)(14)part of the file.
- (15)A. Uh-huh.
- (16)MS. KNEELAND: You need to --
- (17)A. Yes.

(1)

- (18)O. (By Mr. McCarthy) Certainly the applicant's race is part of the file. Correct? (19)
- (20)A. Yes.
- Q. But it has no impact on the personal achievement (21)
- score in and of itself? (22)
- (23)A. In and of itself, no.
- Q. Okay. So then why is it that race is listed as (24)
- one of the special circumstances to be considered in

Page 44

school or community. Special circumstances: Socioeconomic

- status of family, single-parent home, language spoken at (2)
- (3) home, family responsibility, socioeconomic status of school
- (4)attended, average SAT/ACT of school attended in relation to
- student's own SAT/ACT, race, parenthesis, addition approved (5)
- by the UT Board of Regents in 2003. (6)
- Q. So the University in their official publications (7)(8) states that race is one of the special circumstances to be considered as part of a PAI score. Correct? (9)
  - A. It is listed here, yes, sir.
  - Okay.

MS. KNEELAND: Just off the record for a

second.

(Discussion off the record)

- (15)O. (By Mr. McCarthy) So -- so, Dr. Bremen, again --And I'm not trying to belabor the point, I just want to make (16)(17)sure I understand. So race in and of itself has no impact
- on a personal achievement score. (18)
- (19)A. Race in and of itself I would say no. O. Well, let me -- let me try and come up with an (20)
- (21)example here. Okay. Well, actually, you had an example
- earlier. You talked about a Caucasian student --(22)
- A. Right. (23)
  - Q. -- who grew up in racially diverse community, I

Page 45

(25)think you said it was a heavily Hispanic community.

Page 43

- computing a PAI score? (1)
- A. I'm not sure what you mean by race is listed as (2)(3)one of the special circumstances.
- O. In the University's publications about the (4)
- admissions process, in Report 10 -- What I have here is (5)
- Deposition Exhibit 1, this is commonly known as HB 588 (6)
- Report, this is Report No. 10. Are you familiar with this? (7)(8)
  - A. Not -- not intimately.
- (9)Q. Not intimately, okay. Can you take a look and see if you recognize it?
- (10)
- A. Sure (examining document). (11)
- Q. Go ahead and take a moment to flip through it. (12)
- A. Sure, I know of this. I have heard about the (13)report, never actually read through it --(14)
- Q. Okay. (15)
- (16)A. - in any detailed way.
- O. Okay, that's fine. If I could turn to a page (17)
- here, this is the second page of Deposition Exhibit 1, this (18)
- HB 588 report, Report No. 10 and it talks about the factors (19)
- (20)that go into the personal achievement index there. Do you
- -see that, it's sort of in the middle of the page? (21)
- A. Yes, sir. (22)

(23)

- O. Can you just read through those factors for me?
- A. Scores on two essays, leadership, extracurricular (24)(25)
  - activities, awards, honors, work experience, service to

- A. That's correct.
- Q. And an essay written by such an applicant, if it (2)
- revealed a real sense of cultural awareness, in that respect (3)
- that cultural awareness could contribute positively to that (4)
- (5) applicant's personal achievement score.
  - A. That's correct, yes.
  - Q. Okay. So in that instance, is it that that
- applicant's race contributed to their personal achievement (8) (9) score?
- (10)A. Well, I guess I would say the fact that they were
- (11)Anglo in a heavily Hispanic community certainly led to that
- student's understanding of, you know, a variety of positions (12)
- within racial groups within American culture sort of at (13)
- large and border culture in particular. So, you know, and (14)
- (15)
- this is, I think, what happens, again, with kind of holistic
- evaluations. Certainly the student's racial background and (16)
- ethnicity is part of that hodgepodge that led to this sense (17)
- of cultural awareness. So you really can't separate out any (18)
- (19)one factor, right, they all contribute to what was revealed
- in that case, a mature sophisticated sense of cultural (20)
- (21)awareness.
- Q. Okay. And it's that cultural awareness as (22)
- revealed through the essay in that example? (23)
- (24) A. Essays, as well as extracurricular activities,
  - involvement in the community, particular clubs,

(Pages 42 to 45)

	Page 46		Page 48
(1)	organizations.	(1)	A. Right.
(2)	Q. I understand that all those things contribute to	(2)	Q. Let's talk about those other special
(3)	the personal achievement score, but in terms of the cultural	(3)	circumstances. How might those contribute to an applicant's
(4)	awareness, does that come out in participation in clubs?	(4)	personal achievement score?
(5)	A. Yeah, I don't remember the exact names of the	(5)	A. I think they all contribute to the circumstances,
(6)	clubs or organizations, but they were organizations that	(6)	right, that the student operates from. So, again, along
(7)	dealt with, you know, kind of sharing prospectives, bringing	(7)	with this idea of balancing breadth and depth, looking at
(8)	people together. So that - you know, the cultural	(8)	someone who has maximized circumstances so that the
(9)	awareness that was demonstrated through essays, I believe	(9)	circumstances in which a student, you know, spends his or
(10)	even through recommendations that were written about that	(10)	her high school years, how they're able to maximize those
(11)	student that were part of the file were also then revealed	(11)	circumstances in terms of contributions to community,
(12)	in the kinds of activities that that student participated	(12)	school, family, their ability to make a difference, they
(13)	in.	(13)	would all, then, factor into that context in which a student
(14)	Q. Okay. And would the would the opposite	(14)	is operating.
(15)	scenario deal with the same type of Would the opposite	(15)	Q. So is the idea, then, that because these are
(16)	scenario where you have, let's say, a Hispanic student in a,	(16)	indicators of that student's contributions to family,
(17)	you know, heavily Caucasian community, could that have the	(17)	school, community, that they would be likely to contribute
(18)	same sort of positive effect in terms of cultural awareness?	(18)	positively to the experience at University of Texas?
(19)	A. Again, it depends on the file	(19)	A. No. Again, it's that same kind of error that
(20)	Q. Sure.	(20)	you're making. Right? These are the context in which the
(21)	A but there's no reason why, you know, one	(21)	student operates from. What they make of those - those
(22)	particular racial or ethnic identity would impact one's	(22)	circumstances, that's what receives the PAI score.
(23)	cultural awareness more than another.	(23)	Q. Okay, that makes sense to me. Is the reason
(24)	Q. Okay. So would it be accurate to say that race	(24)	What is the reason why the University gives some positive
(25)	comes into play in an applicant's file I'm sorry, strike	(25)	effect to those types of considerations?
, ,	Page 47		Page 49
(1)	that, let me back up.	(1)	A. Again, I wouldn't say the University gives
(2)	Would it be accurate to say that race	(2)	positive effects to those considerations. You know, the
(3)	contributes positively to a personal achievement score only	(3)	University evaluates each file holistically and, you know,
(4)	where it reveals some other positive characteristic about	(4)	if anything, the University wants to recognize the varying
(5)	that applicant?	(5)	sets of circumstances in which students who apply to the
(6)	MS. KNEELAND: Object to the form, but you	(6)	University of Texas operate.
(7)	can answer.	(7)	Q. Okay, okay. Let's talk a little bit more about
(8)	A. Yeah, again, it's and, you know, it's back to	(8)	training. I think we've mostly talked about how admissions
(9)	that idea of holistic scoring, to isolate any one factor,	(9)	office officials receive training for their review of essays
(10)	right; in other words, that entire file is the reason why	(10)	and personal achievement scores.
(11)	that student got the score they did.	(11)	A. Right.
(12)	Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) Uh-huh. Okay. Let's talk about	(12)	Q. Is it true that sometimes applicants' files are
(13)	some other factors. Some of the other factors on that	(13)	given a second read by senior readers?
(14)	Can you read some of the other special circumstances on that	(14)	A. For the I have I'm less involved with the
(15)	page?	(15)	actual reading.
(16)	A. Sure. Socioeconomic status of family,	(16)	Q. Okay.
(17)	single-parent home, language spoken at home, family	(17)	A. I honestly I honestly don't know the answer
(18)	responsibilities	(18)	Q. That's fine.
(19)	(Reporter interrupts)	(19)	A to be able to say for sure.
(20)	A socioeconomic status of school attended,	(20)	Q. If I'm getting out of the range of your subjects,
(21)	average SAT, slash, ACT of school attended in relation to	(21)	that's fine.
(22)	student's own SAT/ACT, and race, addition approved by the UT	(22)	A. That's really out of my expertise.
(23)	Board of Regents in 2003.	(23)	Q. Okay, that's fine.
(24)	Q. Okay. So we've talked about race quite a bit	(24)	When readers are trained, are they trained
(25)	here.	(25)	that the consideration of race can positively impact the

(7)

(8)

(9)

(10)

(11)

(12)

(13)

(14)

(15)

(16)

(17)

(18)

(19)

(20)

(21)

(22)

(23)

(2)

(3)

(5)

(6)

(7)

(8)

(9)

(13)

(14)

(15)

(16)

(17)

(18)

(19)

(20)

(21)

(22)

(23)

(24)

Page 50

personal achievement score of a non-minority student? MS. KNEELAND: Object to the form.

A. Readers -- you know, readers are trained to evaluate amongst, you know, a range of factors and come to some holistic decision. So, again, it's that isolation of individual factors that doesn't jive with the holistic evaluation.

O. (By Mr. McCarthy) Okay. All right, let me give you an example. If you have two applicants' files that are essentially the same in terms of personal achievements in (11) terms of, let's say, school activities, work activities, and (12) the like, but one is, let's say, a Hispanic student that grew up in a predominantly Hispanic neighborhood or community and the other one is Hispanic student what grew up (14)in a predominantly White community, would you expect to see some difference in their personal achievement scores?

MS. KNEELAND: Object to the form.

You can answer it. (18)

# A. Again, I'd have to see the files. It's really impossible to answer questions about hypothetical files.

MR. McCARTHY: Can we take a break? THE REPORTER: Off the record, 10:20.

(23)(Recess) (24)

(1)

(2)(3)

(4)

(5)

(6)

(7) (8)

(10)

(13)

(16)

(17)

(19)

(20)(21)

(22)

(25)

(3)

(4)

(6)

(7)

(8)

(9) (10)

(11)

(13)

THE REPORTER: On the record, 10:41.

Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) Dr. Bremen, we're going to

Page 52

read quickly for impression of the whole essay and score immediately, not to reread or analyze, not to let the (3)scoring guide become a crutch, for them to use the standards they've internalized from the range finders. So that's that (5) triangulating among the scoring guide the sample essays and (6) the essay that's in front of them.

No. 3, which I think is the most important, to read supportively, to look for and reward what's done well rather than what's been done badly or omitted.

And then No. 4, take everything in the essay into account, organization, spelling, diction, sentence structure, everything. There are ten criteria as you go through.

Q. Okay. And could you tell me a little bit about the scoring guide?

A. Sure. The scoring guide is a series of descriptions from a score of six down to a score of one that characterizes the essay and that score point in general terms. So a score of six, for example, reads, An essay in this category demonstrates clear and consistent competence, though it may have occasional errors. Such an essay effectively and insightfully addresses the writing task, is well organized and fully developed using clearly appropriate examples to support ideas, displays consistent facility in the use of language, demonstrating variety in sentence

Page 51

Page 53

continue a little bit more here and this won't take too (1) (2) long.

A. Absolutely.

MR. McCARTHY: I'd like to mark this as

(5) Deposition Exhibit No. 4.

> (Deposition Exhibit No. 4 marked for identification)

Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) Dr. Bremen, can you take a look at what's Deposition Exhibit 4? It's a few pages that are all Bates numbered there, and can you just take a look at it and sort of see what it is?

A. (Examining document.) (12)

O. Are you familiar with what it is?

(14)A. Yes, I am.

(15)Q. And can you tell me what it is?

(16)A. It's a collection of the admission essay topics,

Topic A, B, D, and then instructions for Essay C, Special (17)

Circumstances, the principles of holistic scoring handout, (18)

(19)and the scoring guide for the essay scoring.

(20)Q. Okay. Now you can certainly use those as a (21)reference, but can you tell me a little bit about the

(22)principles of holistic scoring?

(23)A. Sure. The principles of holistic scoring are really the guidelines for readers to engage the process of holistic scoring of essays. The first -- first principle to

(1) structure and range of vocabulary.

> Five then moves down to reasonably consistent competence, it effectively addresses the writing task, generally well organized and adequately developed using appropriate examples to support ideas, it displays facility in the use of language demonstrating some syntactic variety and range of vocabulary.

These are basically the criteria that we used for the SAT II writing test by the College Board.

(10)Q. Okay. And can you tell me in practice, how does (11)it work out -- in practice, how can you discern a score of (12)six from a score of five on two essays?

A. The - You know, the thing about holistic scoring is everybody always thinks that you're trying to distinguish between James Joyce and Virginia Woolf. They'd both get sixes. Really it's between two sentences that you can barely make out, that's a one, and just a really enjoyable, well-developed, thoughtful, insightful piece of writing that takes you through an interesting idea and that's a six.

So, again, there's a variety of criteria that could enter into the difference between a score point. It's not that, you know, any one, say, criteria predominates for a score point. It's that negotiation among the facility with language, the complexity of thought, and the substantiality of development.

Page 54

I ask readers to make a first decision about whether this paper belongs in the upper half or the lower half. So if it's as good or better than the majority of the (4) essays they've read, not quite as successful, less good, and then to make the more particular decision whether it's a six, a five, a four, a three, a two, or a one, but to do so in relation to the sample essays that they've been trained

Q. Okay. And I believe I've got some sample essays here.

## A. Uh-huh.

(1)

(2)

(3)

(5)

(6)

(7)

(8)

(9)

(10)

(11)

(15)

(18)

(19)

(7)

(8)

(9)

(10)

(12)

(13)

(14)

(16)

(17)

(18)

(19)

(20)

(21)

(22)

(23)

(24)

(12)Q. What I'd like to do is just pull one out here and (13)have you sort of walk through it, along with the scoring guide, if that works. (14)

### A. Sure.

(16)MR. McCARTHY: Let me mark this real quick as (17) Deposition Exhibit No. 5.

> (Deposition Exhibit No. 5 marked for identification)

(20)O. (By Mr. McCarthy) Now is this one of your sample (21)essays?

### (22)A. Yes, it is.

(23)Q. Okay. Could you sort of tell me what it is about (24)that essay that would give it a -- some sort of particular score? (25)

Page 56

(1) older, no longer view the world in terms of black and white, (2) good and evil, with Mrs. Roosevelt firmly planted on the

good side of the two-tone spectrum, I continue to harbor a (3)

(4) reverent awe for her devotion to humanitarian service."

(5)She really hits all three criteria (6) demonstrating clear consistent competence, effectively and (7) insightfully addressing the writing task. You couldn't ask for a more fully developed essay with more clearly (8) appropriate examples. And, again, consistent facility in (9) the use of language, really a skilled writer.

(11)O. (By Mr. McCarthy) Okay. And I'd like to give (12)you -- I'd like to give you just one more to look at.

### A. Sure.

(10)

(13)

(16)

(17)

(22)

(25)

(5)

(15)

(16)

(17)

(18)

(19)

MR. McCARTHY: Can we mark this as Deposition (14)Exhibit 6. (15)

(Deposition Exhibit No. 6 marked for identification)

(18)MR. McCARTHY: I should say for the record that Deposition Exhibit 5 is Bates numbered D-504 and D-505 (19)(20)and Deposition Exhibit 6 is Bates numbered D-512.

(21)Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) Dr. Bremen --

### A. Sure.

(23)MS. KNEELAND: Just for the record, you only (24)want him to look at the front of that?

MR. McCARTHY: I believe it's a one-page

Page 57

Page 55

(1)A. Sure. This was an essay about -- This is a student's response to the essay question that asked them to (2)(3)talk about a person who influenced them in their life and (4)this person has made the relatively unusual choice of (5)Eleanor Roosevelt. It begins, "In third grade, I stumbled (6) upon a" --

(Reporter interrupts)

A. "In third grade, I stumbled upon a children's biography of Eleanor Roosevelt at a book store. Since it was on sale, my mom purchased it for me." It then moves (11) through a growing sophistication and awareness of Eleanor Roosevelt as a person, as a role model beginning with these first child-like impressions of a person that they put up on a pedestal. Ending, as she continues - I'm going to just give her the feminine pronoun here, "As I matured intellectually and perused more historically accurate works, I developed an awareness for the multifaceted person that was Eleanor Roosevelt." There's that facility with language. This is a really insightful essay that has a complex argument, again, that develops the idea of this is the person who has influenced me from that child-like awareness to a growing sophistication.

She ends, "Yet, despite her complexities, which arguably make her more human, that first children's book still taints my image of Roosevelt. Although I, now

(1) essay.

Am I correct in that, Doctor? (2)(3)THE WITNESS: Yes. The essay on the back is a different essay. (4)

MR. McCARTHY: Okay.

(6) A. Well this is an essay that's a one and, again, (7) kind of exhibits that wide range between score points. (8) Where the first essay was four full paragraphs, I believe (9)this one is all of 11 lines long, barely getting going on a (10)description of General Robert E. Lee. The essay says, (11)"Although a Confederate leader I have always admired his (12)great talent in organization and planning which I greatly (13)value in my life today because it helps making simple things (14)like home work or projects much easier to do."

It's a pretty convoluted idea how Robert E. Lee impacts this student's homework. There are grammatical errors in that sentence. It moves on to his studies at West Point and just jumps very vaguely from idea to idea.

(20)The score of one reads that an essay in this (21)category demonstrates incompetence. Such an essay is (22)seriously flawed by one or more of the following weaknesses: (23)Very poor organization, very thin development, expression so (24)awkward that meaning is somewhat obscured. And, again, it's (25)not that you have to have all three of those criteria or any

15 (Pages 54 to 57)

Page 58 Page 60 (1) one is more important than the other, though in this case it (1)A. Right. really is the very thin development along with the poor Q. So in and of itself race has no impact on (2)(2)(3) organization of thought that puts this at the bottom, (3) individual's personal achievement score. Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) Okay. Now, with regard to A. That's correct. (4)(4)(5) Deposition Exhibit No. 6 that you were currently speaking (5) Q. Okay. Now where race does have some impact on a (6) about --(6) personal achievement score, that's where it shows some (7)A. Right. revelation about the applicant's cultural awareness. (7)(8) O. -- would it be reasonable for that essay to get a (8) MS. KNEELAND: Object to the form. (9) score of two or is one the only acceptable number? (9) Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) Correct? (10)A. No, this is a solid one and this is - this is why (10)A. No. Again, it's a kind of causal relationship in (11)it's used in the sample selection to get readers to see what (11)that sentence that makes me say --Q. Okay. (12)a one needs to be. (12)Q. Okay. And then sort of in that same light, the (13)(13)A. -- you know, no. (14) one that we talked about before that which was Deposition (14)Q. I'm sorry, please go ahead and state it in your (15)Exhibit No. 5, the one about Eleanor Roosevelt, that is a (15)words, then, because I --(16)(16)six and only a six? A. A student's exhibition of cultural awareness and a (17)A. We would hope that all of the readers would see (17)sense of sophistication about their positioning within (18)that and give it a score of a six, yes. (18)culture, that's what is -- that's what's rewarded with a Q. Okay. All right. Let's move along a little bit (19)(19)score for the personal achievement. (20)to how the holistic scoring applies to the personal (20)Q. Okay. Do you know about how often that -- that type of -- Let me back up a little bit here. (21)achievement score. How do those principles of holistic (21)scoring apply to the personal achievement score? (22)(22)Do you know how often it is that applicants (23)A. The descriptions are different on the personal (23)have that type of cultural awareness exhibited in their (24)achievement score that you're looking - and I'm not going (24)(25)to remember the exact wording, but you are looking for, (25)A. I really don't. I mean, not reading the files, I Page 59 Page 61 wouldn't know in terms of the population. (1) again, a sense of laudable achievement and that that (2)achievement can be manifested in a variety of ways. It can (2)Q. Okay. I don't think I have anything else right be through school activities, through community work, now, but before I let you go, let me just ask you a few (3) (3) through a job even, and that you are looking for a sense of (4) simple questions. (4) (5) maturity and - I don't believe the word sophistication is (5)Are there any answers you've given me today (6) used, but I know that maturity enters into that score point, (6)that you thought about and you'd like to change for any Then similar to the scoring guide for the essays, there are reason? (7) (7)varying adjectives, right, for the score of five, score of (8) (8)Q. Okay. Is there anything that you've thought of (9) (9) four, score of three, two, one. Q. Okay. Now earlier when we talked about personal that you wish you had stated earlier when I asked you a (10)(10)(11)achievement scores, we talked a little bit about how race is (11)question? (12)a component of those personal achievement scores. (12)A. No. MS. KNEELAND: Object to the form. (13)Q. Okay. Well before we conclude, let me just say I (13)(14)Q. (By Mr. McCarthy) When we -- Am I correct in don't think this is likely, but there's a chance that I'll stating that race does not, in and of itself, play a role in (15)(15)recall you back to ask you a few questions this afternoon or (16)the personal achievement score? (16)tomorrow. Again, I don't think it's likely --(17)A. I guess I'm more comfortable saying, right, that (17)an applicant's - I guess I would agree with that, yeah, Q. -- and I don't want to interfere with your time (18)(18)and I appreciate your time here so far. Okay? (19)sure. (19)(20)Q. Okay. So in and of itself race plays no -- in and (20)A. You bet. of itself race has no effect on an applicant's personal Q. \_ Thanks. (21)(21)

16 (Pages 58 to 61)

A. In and of itself.

Q. Yes, in and of itself and I'm qualifying with in

achievement score?

and of itself.

(22)

(23)

(24)

(25)

(22)

(23)

(24)

(25)

MS. KNEELAND: We'll reserve.

(Deposition concluded)

THE REPORTER: Off the record, 11:58.

	Page 62		Page 64
(1)	CHANGES AND SIGNATURE	(1)	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
(2)	PAGE LINE CHANGE REASON	(2)	FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AUSTIN DIVISION
(3)		(3)	ABIGAIL NOEL FISHER; and )
(4)			RACHEL MULTER MICHALEWICZ )
(5)		(4)	)
(6)		(E)	Plaintiffs, )
Ø		(5)	v. ) Civil Action No.
(8)		(6)	) 1:08-cv-00263-SS
l		.,	j ,
(9)		(7)	STATE OF TEXAS; UNIVERSITY OF)
(10)		/0\	TEXAS AT AUSTIN; et al, )
(11)		(8)	Defendants.
(12)		(9)	<del></del>
(13)			REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
(14)		(10)	ORAL DEPOSITION OF BRIAN BREMEN
(15)		(11)	October 6, 2008
(16)		(12)	L Tracie L. Chew, Certified Shorthand Reporter in and
(17)		(13)	for the State of Texas, do hereby certify that, pursuant to
(18)		(14)	the agreement of counsel, came on before me, on October 6,
(19)		(15)	2008, the following named person, BRIAN BREMEN, who was duly sworn to testify to the truth and nothing but the truth
(20)	I, BRIAN BREMEN, have read the foregoing deposition and	(16) (17)	touching and concerning the matters in controversy in this
(21)	hereby affix my signature that same is true and correct,	(18)	cause; that he was thereupon carefully examined upon his
1 ' '		(19)	oath and his examination reduced to typewriting under my
(22)	except as noted above.	(20)	supervision; and this deposition is a true record of the
(23)		(21) (22)	testimony given by said witness.  I further certify that I am neither attorney, nor
(24)		(23)	counsel for, nor related to, nor employed by any of the
	BRIAN BREMEN	(24)	parties to the action in which this testimony is taken, and,
(25)		(25)	further, that I am not a relative nor employee of any
	Page 63		Page 65
(1)	THE STATE OF	(1)	attorney or counsel employed by the parties hereto or
(2)	COUNTY OF)	(2)	financially interested in the action.
(3)		(3)	I further certify that the deposition transcript was
(4)	Before me,, on this day	(4)	submitted on to the witness or to the
i	personally appeared BRIAN BREMEN, known to me or proved to	(5)	attorney for the witness for examination, signature and
(5)	me on the oath of or through	(6)	return to me by;
(6)		(7)	The original deposition was/was not returned to the
(7)	(description of identity card	(8)	deposition officer on;
(8)	or other document) to be the person whose name is subscribed	(9)	If returned, the attached Changes and Signature page
(9)	to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that	(10)	contains any changes and the reasons therefor;
(10)	he/she executed the same for the purpose and consideration	(11)	If returned, the original deposition was delivered to
(11)	therein expressed.	(12)	Mr. Thomas R. McCarthy, Custodial Attorney; That \$ is the deposition officer's charges to
(12)	Given under my hand and seal of office on this	(13)	the Plaintiffs for preparing the original deposition
(13)	, 2008.	(14) (15)	transcript and any copies of exhibits;
(14)		(16)	WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this day o
(15)		(17)	, 2008.
{	NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR	(18)	
(16)	THE STATE OF	(19)	
	IIID DATIED OF	()	QV QV
(17)	Mr. Commission Erminon	(20)	TRACIE L. CHEW, CSR #6503
(18)	My Commission Expires:	` "	Expiration: 12/31/2008
(19)		(21)	DepoTexas Austin
(20)		` ′	Firm Registration No. 17
(21)		(22)	DepoTexas@aol.com
(22)			Fax 512/478-2782
(23)		(23)	
(24)		(24)	- ·
(25)		(25)	

64 1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS 2 AUSTIN DIVISION 3 ABIGAIL NOEL FISHER; and RACHEL MULTER MICHALEWICZ 4 Plaintiffs, 5 Civil Action No. ν. 6 1:08-cv-00263-SS 7 STATE OF TEXAS; UNIVERSITY TEXAS AT AUSTIN; et al, Я Defendants. ) 9 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE 10 ORAL DEPOSITION OF BRIAN BREMEN October 6, 2008 11 12 I, Tracie L. Chew, Certified Shorthand Reporter in and 13 for the State of Texas, do hereby certify that, pursuant to 14 the agreement of counsel, came on before me, on October 6, 2008, the following named person, BRIAN BREMEN, who was duly 15 1.6 sworn to testify to the truth and nothing but the truth touching and concerning the matters in controversy in this 17 cause; that he was thereupon carefully examined upon his 18 oath and his examination reduced to typewriting under my 19 20 supervision; and this deposition is a true record of the 21 testimony given by said witness. 22 I further certify that I am neither attorney, nor 23 counsel for, nor related to, nor employed by any of the 24 parties to the action in which this testimony is taken; and, further, that I am not a relative nor employee of any 25